



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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MONDAY, DECEMBER 7, 1981

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CAREERS EXHIBITION POPULAR

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THE CAREERS '82 EXHIBITION JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT AND THE URBAN COUNCIL CAME TO A SUCCESSFUL CONCLUSION TODAY (MONDAY) ATTRACTING ABOUT 105 000 VISITORS OVER THE PAST 10 DAYS.

THE LIVE CAREERS SHOWS AND THE COMPUTER PROJECT AT EDINBURGH PLACE ATTRACTED ABOUT 240 000 VISITORS.

AT A CLOSING CEREMONY, MRS HENDERSON, WIFE OF THE COMMISSIONER FOR LABOUR, PRESENTED A PEN SET AS A SOUVENIR TO THE 100 000TH VISITOR TO THE EXHIBITION, MR WONG WAI-KIT, A FORM 5 STUDENT FROM HELEN LIANG MEMORIAL SECONDARY SCHOOL.

SPEAKING AT THE CEREMONY, THE COMMISSIONER FOR LABOUR, MR J.N. HENDERSON, SAID THE REPEATED SUCCESS OF THE CAREERS EXHIBITIONS OVER THE YEARS HAD BROUGHT THE TOTAL NUMBER OF VISITORS TO NEARLY ONE MILLION.

+I FEEL SURE THAT BECAUSE OF ITS POPULARITY AMONG STUDENTS, PARENTS AND MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC, WE SHALL REACH THE MILESTONE OF THE FIRST MILLION VISITORS TO THESE EXHIBITIONS IN CAREERS '83 NEXT YEAR,+ HE ADDED.

MR HENDERSON ATTRIBUTED THE SUCCESS OF THIS YEAR'S EXHIBITION TO THE CONTRIBUTIONS MADE BY THE EXHIBITORS, WHOSE SUPPORT IN PROVIDING FINANCIAL RESOURCES FOR THE DESIGN OF THEIR STANDS AND IN PROVIDING EXPERIENCED STAFF TO ANSWER ENQUIRIES ON THE SPOT CERTAINLY HELPED YOUNG PEOPLE MAKE AN INFORMED CHOICE OF A CAREER.

CREDIT MUST ALSO GO TO THE MANY OTHER ORGANISATIONS WHICH HAD CONTRIBUTED TO THE EXHIBITION IN ONE WAY OR ANOTHER, SUCH AS THE ROYAL HONG KONG POLICE, THE CIVIL AID SERVICES, THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT, THE MING PAO DAILY AND THE INFORMATION SERVICES DEPARTMENT.

MR HENDERSON ALSO THANKED THE URBAN COUNCIL FOR THEIR CO-SPONSORSHIP, AND THE URBAN COUNCIL LIBRARIES ADMINISTRATION AND THE CITY HALL MANAGEMENT FOR THEIR ASSISTANCE IN THE PREPARATIONS FOR THE EXHIBITION.

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VOLUNTEER WATCHERS FOR SQUATTER FIRES

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EVERY EVENING AT ABOUT HALF PAST FIVE, A GROUP OF YOUNG MEN WHO HAVE JUST RETURNED FROM WORK BEGIN TO PATROL THE TSIN SHUI MA TAU VILLAGE SQUATTER AREA IN SHAU KI WAN, WATCHING OUT FOR THE FIRST SIGN OF THEIR DEADLY ENEMY - FIRE.

THEY LOOK FOR SIGNS OF THICK SMOKE OR FLAME. THEY ALSO WATCH OUT FOR CHILDREN PLAYING WITH MATCHES, FOR OBSTRUCTIONS TO FIRE ESCAPE ROUTES, ILLEGAL WIRE CONNECTIONS OR ANY INCIDENTS THAT COULD START A FIRE.

THESE YOUNG MEN ARE MEMBERS OF THE VILLAGE'S VOLUNTARY FIRE WATCH TEAM, ESTABLISHED THREE YEARS AGO WITH THE HELP OF THE LOCAL CITY DISTRICT OFFICE. THERE ARE NOW 101 OTHER SIMILAR TEAMS IN HONG KONG.

THE TEAM'S JOB, ACCORDING TO THEIR ORGANISER, MR LEUNG CHI-KEUNG, IS TO WATCH OUT FOR ANY FIRE IN THE VILLAGE AND, HAVING SPOTTED ONE, TO TAKE IMMEDIATE FIRE FIGHTING MEASURES TO TACKLE THE BLAZE UNTIL THE ARRIVAL OF PROFESSIONAL FIRE FIGHTERS.

+EQUALLY, IF NOT MORE IMPORTANT, IT IS IN THEIR RESPONSIBILITY TO TEACH SQUATTERS HOW TO TAKE PROPER PRECAUTIONS AGAINST THE OUTBREAK OF FIRE,+ MR LEUNG SAID.

MR LEUNG RECALLED THAT ON A DRY AUTUMN EVENING IN 1979, A WOMAN OF THE VILLAGE FORGOT THAT HER DINNER WAS COOKING ON THE STOVE. THE MEAL BEGAN TO BURN AND THIS LED TO A SMALL FIRE IN HER KITCHEN. FORTUNATELY, THE CAPTAIN OF THE WATCH TEAM, PUI CHOI, WAS PATROLLING NEARBY. HE TOLD ANOTHER TEAM MEMBER TO STRIKE A GONG TO RAISE THE ALARM WHILE HE GRABBED A FIRE EXTINGUISHER AND BATTLED THE BLAZE.

+THE FIRE WAS INSTANTLY PUT OUT. AND THE KITCHEN WAS STILL INTACT, ALL BECAUSE THE FIRE WAS SPOTTED EARLY ENOUGH,+ MR LEUNG SAID.

MR LEUNG ALSO RECALLED THAT A YET BIGGER FIRE IN DECEMBER 1980 HAD REQUIRED THE EFFORTS OF THE WHOLE FIRE WATCH TEAM PLUS HELP FROM THE VILLAGERS.

+SOON AFTER THE FIRE BROKE OUT IN A HUT AT MID SLOPE, MR PUI ARRIVED WITH THE WHOLE FIRE WATCH TEAM. HE SENT ONE MEMBER OF THE TEAM TO CALL THE FIRE SERVICES AND TO DIRECT THE FIREMEN TO THE SCENE WHEN THEY ARRIVED. HE ALSO ORGANISED SEVERAL OTHER TEAM MEMBERS TO EVACUATE THE NEIGHBOURING SQUATTER HUTS, AND TO JOIN THE REST OF THE TEAM TO STOP THE FIRE FROM SPREADING.

+THE FIRE WAS PUT OUT EVEN BEFORE THE FIREMEN ARRIVED,+ MR LEUNG SAID.

+OTHER THAN THESE TWO OCCASIONS, THERE HAVE BEEN NO OTHER FIRES IN THE VILLAGE IN THE PAST THREE YEARS,+ HE SAID.

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MOST OF THE TEAM MEMBERS ALSO WORK IN SOME OF THE NINE PATROL TEAMS OF THE LOCAL MUTUAL AID COMMITTEE, SERVING 1 100 FAMILIES IN THE VILLAGE.

ACCORDING TO MR LEUNG, WHEN THEIR TEAM WAS FIRST ESTABLISHED, ARRANGEMENTS WERE MADE BY THE LOCAL CITY DISTRICT OFFICE FOR THE TEAM MEMBERS TO BE TRAINED BY OFFICERS FROM THE LOCAL DIVISIONAL FIRE STATIONS.

THE INITIAL COURSE COVERED SUCH TOPICS AS COMMON CAUSES OF FIRE, FIRE PREVENTION METHODS, WHAT TO DO WHEN A FIRE BREAKS OUT, HOW TO SUMMON HELP QUICKLY, HOW TO SET UP SPEEDY EVACUATION PROCEDURES, AND HOW TO HANDLE AND REFILL FIRE EXTINGUISHERS.

APART FROM THE INITIAL COURSE, FOLLOW-UP BRIEFINGS AND VISITS BY FIRE SERVICES OFFICERS ARE ORGANISED AT INTERVALS. IN ADDITION, THE TEAM HAS BEEN VISITED BY LIAISON OFFICERS DURING THEIR FIELD TRIPS, AND BY THE FIRE SERVICES' FIRE PROTECTION BUREAU.

+THE NEXT TRAINING SESSION FOR OUR TEAM MEMBERS WILL BE HELD ON DECEMBER 18, 1981, AT THE FIRE SERVICES TRAINING SCHOOL IN PAT HEUNG, FANLING,+ MR LEUNG SAID.

MR LEUNG POINTED OUT THAT THEY WERE ALSO LAUNCHING THEIR OWN EDUCATION PROGRAMME FOR THE VILLAGERS.

THE PROGRAMME IS SUPPORTED BY THE DISPLAY OF POSTERS AND BANNERS, THE DISTRIBUTION OF FIRE PREVENTION PAMPHLETS, FIRE PREVENTION QUIZZES FOR CHILDREN AND 'WORD OF MOUTH' INFORMATION.

A FIRE DRILL TOOK PLACE LAST SUNDAY MORNING. IT WAS ATTENDED BY AN OFFICER FROM THE SHAU KI WAN FIRE STATION WHO BRIEFED THE TEAM MEMBERS.

THE TEAM HAS RECEIVED SOME PORTABLE FIRE-FIGHTING EQUIPMENT FROM THE GOVERNMENT, INCLUDING FOUR WATER-TYPE FIRE EXTINGUISHERS, ONE CARBON DIOXIDE-TYPE FIRE EXTINGUISHER, FOUR +ALARM GONGS+, EIGHT FIRE BUCKETS, AND SPECIAL ARMBANDS FOR EACH TEAM MEMBER. EVERY MEMBER ALSO KEEPS A FIRE WATCH TEAM HANDBOOK PREPARED BY THE INFORMATION SERVICES DEPARTMENT.

ACCORDING TO A SPOKESMAN FOR THE INFORMATION SERVICES DEPARTMENT, EACH SET OF EQUIPMENT SUPPLIED TO A FIRE WATCH TEAM, EXCLUDING PRINTED MATERIAL, COSTS MORE THAN \$1 400. THE AMOUNT THE GOVERNMENT HAS SO FAR SPENT ON EQUIPPING FIRE WATCH TEAMS EXCEEDS \$100 000.

SINCE THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE FIRST FIRE WATCH TEAM IN HONG KONG IN 1978, THE IDEA HAS BEEN ENDORSED BY ALMOST ALL SQUATTER AREA RESIDENTS. THERE ARE NOW 55 SUCH TEAMS IN THE SQUATTER AREA OF HONG KONG AND KOWLOON, AND 47 IN THE VILLAGES AND SQUATTER AREAS OF THE NEW TERRITORIES.

NEW TEAMS ARE STILL BEING FORMED WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF LOCAL DISTRICT OFFICES, THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

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TAX EXEMPTION ON INTEREST EARNED

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INTEREST PAYABLE BY LICENSED BANKS, BY CERTAIN PUBLIC UTILITIES AND BY THE GOVERNMENT AT RATES OF UP TO 10 PER CENT PER ANNUM WILL BE EXEMPT FROM INTEREST TAX FROM TODAY (MONDAY), A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN ANNOUNCED.

HE SAID THAT THIS REPRESENTS A REDUCTION OF 1 PER CENT IN THE EXEMPTION LIMIT, AND FOLLOWS THE ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE HONG KONG ASSOCIATION OF BANKS ON FRIDAY THAT THE RATES OF INTEREST PAYABLE ON SAVINGS ACCOUNTS WOULD BE REDUCED TO 10 PER CENT WITH EFFECT FROM TODAY.

A NOTICE SIGNED BY THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY UNDER SECTION 28(1) OF THE INLAND REVENUE ORDINANCE IS PUBLISHED IN AN EXTRAORDINARY ISSUE OF THE GOVERNMENT GAZETTE TODAY.

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MORE REFUSE COLLECTION POINTS FOR NT

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FOUR NEW REFUSE COLLECTION POINTS WILL BE BUILT SHORTLY IN SHA TIN, TSUEN WAN AND SAI KUNG TO IMPROVE REFUSE COLLECTION SERVICES AND THE ENVIRONMENT IN THE NEW TERRITORIES.

TENDERS FOR THE PROJECTS ARE BEING INVITED BY THE ARCHITECTURAL OFFICE OF THE BUILDING DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT.

TWO OF THE REFUSE COLLECTION POINTS ARE LOCATED AT FO TAN, SHA TIN NEW TOWN, THE THIRD IS LOCATED AT TA CHUEN PING STREET, KWAI CHUNG AND THE FOURTH AT TUI MIN HOI, SAI KUNG.

WORK ON THE PROJECTS WILL START IN JANUARY AND BE COMPLETED IN THE MIDDLE OF NEXT YEAR.

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POPULAR RESPONSE TO IYDP ESSAY COMPETITION
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MORE THAN 4 200 ENTRIES HAVE BEEN RECEIVED FOR THE CHINESE ESSAY COMPETITION HELD IN RESPONSE TO THE INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF DISABLED PERSONS.

THE COMPETITION IS JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT, WAH KIU YAT PO, AND THE HONG KONG PROFESSIONAL TEACHERS' UNION, AND IS FINANCED BY THE ROYAL HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB.

THERE WERE 1 841 ENTRIES FROM PRIMARY SCHOOLS AND 1 291, FROM SECONDARY SCHOOLS AS WELL AS 67 ENTRIES FROM STUDENTS IN SPECIAL SCHOOLS.

SIXTY-TWO ENTRIES WERE RECEIVED FOR THE OPEN DIVISION WHICH COMPRISED ESSAYS WRITTEN BY POST-SECONDARY STUDENTS AND MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC.

ANOTHER 102 ENTRIES HAD BEEN RECEIVED FROM MACAU RESIDENTS.

IN VIEW OF THE POPULAR RESPONSE TO THE COMPETITION, THE ORGANISERS HAVE DECIDED THAT IN ADDITION TO AWARDING A FIRST, SECOND AND THIRD PRIZE FOR EACH OF THE PRIMARY, SECONDARY AND OPEN DIVISIONS, ANOTHER 10 PRIZES WILL BE AWARDED TO OUTSTANDING ENTRIES IN EACH SECTION INSTEAD OF THE ORIGINAL FIVE.

JUDGING WILL BE CONDUCTED BY REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE THREE ORGANISING BODIES.

THE PRIZE-GIVING CEREMONY WILL BE HELD AT 10 AM ON DECEMBER 19 (SATURDAY) AT VICTORIA PARK SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF.

MR MICHAEL LEUNG, DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION- MR SHUM CHOI-SANG, MANAGING EDITOR OF WAH KIU YAT PO- AND MR SZETO WAH, PRSIDENT OF THE PROFESSIONAL TEACHERS' UNION WILL OFFICIATE AT THE CEREMONY.

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AIRMAIL LOST IN FIRE
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THE POST OFFICE ANNOUNCED TODAY THAT A FIRE, BELIEVED TO HAVE BEEN STARTED BY VANDALS, DESTROYED A QUANTITY OF AIRMAIL ITEMS IN THE AIRMAIL POSTING BOX AT THE HENNESSY ROAD POST OFFICE IN WAN CHAI LAST SUNDAY MORNING.

A SPOKESMAN SAID THE FIRE OCCURRED AT ABOUT 4 AM ON SUNDAY.

+AS A RESULT, ALL AIRMAIL ITEMS POSTED IN THIS BOX BETWEEN 7 PM ON SATURDAY AND 4 AM ON SUNDAY WERE DESTROYED.+

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CONFERENCE ON HONG KONG HISTORY

A THREE-DAY CONFERENCE ON HONG KONG HISTORY AND SOCIETY IN CHANGE WILL BE HELD AT THE CHINESE UNIVERSITY STARTING ON THURSDAY (DECEMBER 10).

THERE WILL ALSO BE AN EXHIBITION OF HONG KONG HISTORY SOURCE MATERIALS.

THE CONFERENCE AND EXHIBITION ARE BEING ORGANISED BY A COMMITTEE DRAWN MAINLY FROM FACULTIES OF THE CHINESE UNIVERSITY AND THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG.

THE SECRETARY FOR CITY AND NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION, MR DAVID AKERS-JONES, WILL OFFICIATE AT THE OPENING TO BE HELD AT THE UNIVERSITY'S INSTITUTE OF CHINESE STUDIES STARTING AT 11.30 AM.

PRIOR TO THIS, AT 10.30 AM, A PRESS BRIEFING WILL BE HELD IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM ON THE FIRST FLOOR OF THE INSTITUTE, TO BE FOLLOWED BY A GUIDED TOUR OF THE EXHIBITION.

GIVING THE BRIEFING WILL BE: THE DIRECTOR OF THE CENTRE FOR ASIAN STUDIES OF THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG, DR EDWARD CHEN= THE ACTING DIRECTOR OF THE CENTRE FOR EAST ASIAN STUDIES OF THE CHINESE UNIVERSITY, DR TAM YUE-HIM= AND LECTURERS FROM THE TWO UNIVERSITIES, MR LIN T' IEN WEI, DR ALICE NG AND DR DAVID FAURE, WITH TSUEN WAN TOWN MANAGER, DR JAMES HAYES, ACTING AS CHAIRMAN.

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TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENT AT TAI TAM TUK DAM

WITH IMMEDIATE EFFECT, THE SOUTHBOUND CARRIAGEWAY OF THE STILLWAY SECTION OF TAI TAM TUK DAM WILL BE CLOSED TO TRAFFIC FOR SEVEN MONTHS TO ALLOW CONSTRUCTION WORK TO BE CARRIED OUT.

HOWEVER, NORMAL TRAFFIC WILL BE MAINTAINED AS THE NORTHBOUND CARRIAGEWAY WILL BE CONVERTED INTO A ONE LANE TWO-WAY TRAFFIC.

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LUNCH-TIME ENQUIRY SERVICE FOR FACTORY WORKERS

THE CITY DISTRICT OFFICE (SOUTHERN) WILL BE EXTENDING ITS LUNCH-TIME PUBLIC ENQUIRY SERVICE FOR THE CONVENIENCE OF FACTORY WORKERS IN WONG CHUK HANG AREA.

A MOBILE PUBLIC ENQUIRY COUNTER WILL BE OPERATED FOR THE FIRST TIME IN THE CANTEEN OF BRITISH AMERICAN TOBACCO CO. (HK) LTD AT 2, HEUNG YIP ROAD, WONG CHUK HANG BETWEEN 12.30 PM AND 1.15 PM ON WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 9.

THE ENQUIRY COUNTER WILL BE MANNED BY THE STAFF FROM CDO, WHO WILL ANSWER ANY ENQUIRIES ON GOVERNMENT SERVICES.

COPIES OF GOVERNMENT FORMS AND INFORMATION MATERIAL WILL ALSO BE AVAILABLE. IT IS INTENDED TO EXTEND THE SCHEME TO CATER FOR THE NEEDS OF OTHER FACTORY WORKERS IN THE DISTRICT. ANY OTHER FACTORY IN SOUTHERN DISTRICT INTERESTED IN THE SCHEME SHOULD CONTACT CITY DISTRICT OFFICE AT 5-540271-6.

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SHA TIN ARTS FORTNIGHT

A SHA TIN ARTS FORTNIGHT COCKTAIL PARTY WILL BE HELD AT THE ALICE PALACE RESTAURANT, WO CHE COMMERCIAL COMPLEX, SHA TIN, ON WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 9, AT 3.30 PM.

THE ARTS FORTNIGHT PROGRAMME WILL BE OUTLINED IN FULL BY THE DISTRICT OFFICER, DR PATRICK HASE.

DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS, MUTUAL AID COMMITTEE MEMBERS, VILLAGE REPRESENTATIVES AND LOCAL RESIDENTS WILL BE PRESENT.

YOU ARE INVITED TO SEND REPRESENTATIVES TO ATTEND THE PARTY. A GOVERNMENT VEHICLE WILL LEAVE KOWLOON PUBLIC PIER AT 2.45 PM. STAFF OF THE CITY AND NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION INFORMATION UNIT WILL BE PRESENT TO ASSIST.

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CLEAN-UP AT SAI KUNG TOWN
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A CLEAN-UP AND HAWKER CLEARANCE AT A THOROUGHFARE IN THE TOWN CENTRE OF SAI KUNG WAS CARRIED OUT TODAY (MONDAY) BY OFFICERS OF THE POLICE, HOUSING DEPARTMENT AND THE NEW TERRITORIES SERVICES DEPARTMENT.

THE JOINT OPERATION WAS AIMED AT IMPROVING THE GENERAL ENVIRONMENT IN AN OPEN SPACE IN FRONT OF THE TIN HAU TEMPLE AT PO TUNG ROAD AND TO FACILITATE ROAD RE-SURFACING WORK.

SOME 40 UNLICENSED HAWKERS, AT THE ADVICE OF THE DISTRICT OFFICE OF SAI KUNG, MOVED OUT FROM THE ROAD.

THEY WERE ALLOWED TO CONTINUE THEIR TRADES AT ANOTHER OPEN SPACE IN A NEARBY STREET.

ILLEGAL STRUCTURES LEFT BEHIND BY THE HAWKERS WERE CLEARED AWAY SHORTLY AFTER 8 AM TODAY. A CLEAN-UP ALSO TOOK PLACE TO REMOVE ALL GARBAGE.

ROAD RE-SURFACING WORK WILL START TOMORROW WHICH, ON COMPLETION, WILL ADD PARKING SPACE AND FLOWER PLOTS ON THE STREET.

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SALT WATER SUPPLY CUT
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SALT WATER SUPPLY TO SOME AREAS IN CENTRAL KOWLOON WILL BE CUT OFF FOR TWO DAYS FROM 8 AM TOMORROW (TUESDAY) TO 8 AM ON THURSDAY (DECEMBER 10) FOR WATER MAINS REPAIR WORK.

PREMISES WHICH WILL BE AFFECTED ARE IN HUNG HOM, TO KWA WAN, MA TAU KOK, KAI TAK, MA TAU WAI, SAN PO KONG, LOK FU, KOWLOON CITY, WONG TAI SIN, KOWLOON TONG, TSZ WAN SHAN, AND WANG TAU HOM, INCLUDING KOWLOON HOSPITAL AND TUNG TAU TSUEN.

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